

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-38 are pending in the above-identified application, with Claims 32-38 being withdrawn due to a restriction requirement. Therefore, Claims 1-31 are currently under examination in the above-identified application. Claims 1-2, 4-8, 10-22, and 24-31 are amended herein, and Claim 32 is withdrawn and currently amended herein. Support for the amendments is found throughout the specification. Accordingly, the amendments do not introduce new matter into this application.

Amendment to the Specification

The typographical and nomenclature errors that appeared in Claim 28 also appeared in the specification, on page 46, line 18, to page 48, line 13. The revisions to correct these errors introduce no new subject matter to this application. Applicants thank Examiner Lee for recommending these revisions.

Claim Objections

The Patent and Trademark Office ("PTO") objected to Claims 20, 21, 24-26, 28, and 30 as follows:

(1) Claims 20, 21, 24-26, and 28 were objected to because of the use of the phrase "further comprising an optional." Applicants maintain that this objection is obviated in view of the above amendments and respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

(2) Claim 28 was objected to because of chemical nomenclature errors. Applicants assert that this rejection is obviated in view of the above amendments and respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

(3) Claim 30 was objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of Claim 1. Applicants assert that this objection is obviated in view of the above amendment and respectfully request that the objection of Claim 30 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75 be withdrawn.

Rejection Under 35 USC § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. In view of the amendments to Claims 1, 2, 7, 11, and 29-31, Applicants respectfully assert that this rejection is obviated. Support for the amendments can be found in the specification on page 27, lines 4-11. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 1-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

Rejoinder of Group II Method Claims 32-35

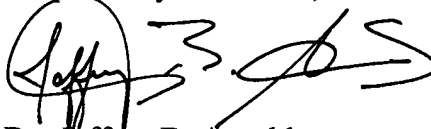
Applicants respectfully maintain that the Group I Claims 1-31 drawn to a catalyst composition are in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants request that claims drawn to a method of using the catalyst composition, Group II Claims 32-35, be rejoined with Claims 1-31. To facilitate rejoinder, withdrawn Claim 32 is amended herein to include the features of Claim 1. Because method Claims 32-35 include the features of catalyst composition Claims 1-31, Applicants invoke their right to have Claims 32-35 rejoined and allowed as well.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully assert that the objections and rejections as set forth in the Office Action have been fully addressed and overcome. Therefore, Applicants assert that all Claims are in condition for allowance and requests that an early notice of allowance be issued. If issues may be resolved by Examiner's Amendment, or clarified in any manner, a call to the undersigned attorney at (404) 879-2433 is respectfully requested.

No fees are believed due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 09-0528.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffery B. Arnold", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

By: Jeffery B. Arnold
Reg. No. 39,540

WOMBLE CARLYLE SANDRIDGE & RICE, PLLC
P.O. Box 7037
Atlanta, Georgia 30357-0037
Direct Telephone: (404) 879-2433
Direct Facsimile: (404) 879-2933
Firm Telephone: (404) 872-7000

Atty. Docket No.: C51757 0690 (51879.0549.2)